

Pres. Harding's Letter an Apology for a Do-Nothing Congress

WASHINGTON, October 16.—The letter of President Harding to Representative Mondell, praising the work of Congress, which was made public yesterday, was declared by Chairman Hull of the Democratic National Committee in a statement tonight to be "in effect a plea for the re-election of his Republican do-nothing Congress."

"With the exception of the Republican members defeated in the primaries," Hull said, "practically the entire membership of this Congress are candidates for re-election, and when President Harding asks the American people to approve this Congress he asks for its re-election."

"It is befitting to appraise the general results (of the Congress)," says President Harding, "which have been so helpful to American welfare that they will not fail to appeal to the approval of the American people."

"This is the Harding roundabout way of doing what President Wilson did in 1918 in a direct way when he asked for the election of a Democratic Congress to aid him in making a just peace, for which he was criticised and abused by Republican leaders, Republican speakers and the reactionary Republican press."

"President Wilson's plea was for continuance of a Congress to sustain an administration which had entered upon and was successfully conducting a great war, and which he deemed necessary to the making of a successful peace. It came at a time when Republicans in the Senate were plotting to disparage him and deprive his administration of the credit for what it had already done and what it planned to do."

"President Harding's plea, on the other hand, in effect asks the American people to condone the faults of a Congress already discredited in the eyes of the American people and repudiated and denounced by Republican leaders, including a member of his own Cabinet, and the honest and intelligent element of the Republican press."

The following editorial, commenting on the President's letter, is taken from the Commercial Appeal:

AN APOLOGY FOR CONGRESS.

It is well that President Harding is able to find a period in American history behind which he can take refuge from the attacks upon the do nothing Congress just adjourned and from which position he can by way of comparison offer a defense, even though the defense is hardly more than an apology. The president may have been hard put to it to find another Congress that for lack of use or value can be compared to the one just adjourned, but he has found it in the Congresses that held forth immediately after the Civil War. At that time the passions of a fratricidal struggle were still at white heat and legislation in the interest of one section as against another was produced by minds embittered. President Harding may be right when he says that the last Congress was better than several of the reconstruction Congresses, but that is not saying very much and it is going a long way off to find a comparison.

While the President asserts that the most recent Congress rendered very valuable service to the nation, he takes the precaution to hide his claims behind the generality that it is unnecessary "to suggest an enumeration of its accomplishments." He might have added with equal truth that it would be very difficult also to do so. The three chief claims that he puts forth are the reduction of taxes and expenses, the care for disabled soldiers and the passage of the tariff bill, but there is a large sized fly in the ointment of each. In the reduction of taxes the only beneficiaries have been the profiteers and those persons possessed of swollen incomes. The average citizen still carries the same burden of taxation he did during the war. And as for the reduction of governmental expenses it will be known to all that this has been brought about largely by the elimination of war expenditures and the demobilization of over 4,000,000 men who were in the armed service of the nation.

It must appear that the President selected an unfortunate time to lay claim to adequate care by the administration for the sick and disabled soldiers of the World War because simultaneously with the making of the claim a committee of the American Legion gathered in New Orleans reports that the hospitalization work of the administration "judging by actual results is a tragedy for the sick, a discredit to the government and an affront to the

American Legion." For equally good reasons, we feel that the President should hesitate to eulogize the Fordney-McCumber tariff when it has been and still is being excoriated by some of the leading Republican newspapers and statesmen of the country. Had he claimed that the tariff would bring benefits in the way of monopoly to the large manufacturers and big interests of the nation he would be justified, but he presumes upon the intelligence of the people when he says that the tariff will encourage and develop our foreign trade.

It is unfortunate also that the country emerged from the great war with its financial stability unimpaired and "with less of distress and disaster than many others of the great powers." The natural response to this will be why? And the only answer can be that the finances of the nation were put on such a sound basis by the preceding administration that the country was able to go through the greatest war in its history without being seriously menaced financially. Also the fact that we came out in such a healthy condition from the war is the best possible answer to the Republican charge that President Wilson neglected to prepare for the struggle.

Nor can we understand how the President, in defending Congress and his own administration, should use these words:

The last thing in our thoughts is aloofness from the rest of the world. We wish to be helpful, neighborly and useful. To protect ourselves first and then to use the strength accruing through that policy for the general welfare of mankind is our sincere purpose.

If it has been our purpose to be "neighborly and useful" to the world we have pursued it in a strange manner. It is true that we have been charitable and given money and goods to relieve distress in the world, but what have we done to prevent this distress? Can the millions of people who are suffering because of continued disorder in the world consider us neighborly when we sit at home, refuse them the slightest support to prevent threatened evils and even decline to offer our advice as to the best means by which they might save themselves? Or of what use has our strength been in preventing the cruel and uncalled for slaughter of innocents in Asia Minor and elsewhere throughout the world?

These questions clamor for an answer, but we doubt they will receive one. Anyhow, we are glad to know from President Harding that the Congress just adjourned is no worse

HAYTI SCHOOL NOTES

The Hayti schools were closed last Thursday and Friday for the Teachers' Association at Cape Girardeau. The meeting there was one of the best in years and was well attended. The educational exhibit consisting of books, pamphlets, pictures, etc., on display was alone worth the trip to the Cape. The program was interesting and inspiring, causing one to return to school work with more zest and zeal.

The Hayti public schools sent ten to the meeting—the highest number of any one school in Pemiscot county. Those attending from here were: O. E. Hooker, superintendent; Mrs. H. D. Wells, principal; Mr. K. V. Propst, Miss Katherine McManey, Mrs. Emma Reinhardt, Mrs. O. E. Hooker, Mrs. Nettie Reeves, Mrs. Leona Condit, Miss Hattie Mae Argo and Edith Davis.

The second grade room, sponsored by Mrs. Ellison, gave a sandwich sale last week. The members of the second grade made their own announcements, unassisted, in the various rooms. They sold the entire stock which netted them \$4.79, which will be used to purchase a frame for Washington's picture.

On next Friday, October 27, we have our first foot ball game on Brittin field with Malden. Tickets will be on sale early next week. We are going to have a real team with all kinds of pep. We need your help. Come out and see us snow Malden under.

There is not near as much road dragging in and around Hayti this fall as formerly, and not near as much as should be done. The condition of all the highways is ample proof of this. We don't know why it is so. But there should be no excuse except a valid one, and the only valid one, we think, would be lack of funds. Is that the case? If not, let the work begin at once, and be kept up as it should be.

—Emerson fans, oscillating and non-oscillating. All sizes. Lefler Hardware Co., Hayti.

than the Congresses that followed the Civil War.

In the editorial below the Post-Dispatch expresses its views of the President's letter:

MR. HARDING'S WRETCHED LETTER

President Harding has written a letter to Representative Mondell which satisfactorily compares the Sixty-seventh Congress with the reconstruction Congress following the Civil War and the financial condition of the United States with that of the other nations in the World War. Both comparisons are odious.

If there is one chapter in our history where the dead past's dead should be left undisturbed, it is the Republican party's uncouth, malevolent, incompetent and graft-ridden reconstruction record following the Civil War. Any effort that wouldn't shine in comparison with that abomination would be vile indeed.

It is difficult to read with patience or respect the presidential statement that "Our country has borne its part in this experience (the World War and its aftermath) without even menace of our gold-standard money system." It is a statement of fact, admittedly, but it is a shocking disregard of truth. With most of the gold of other nations in our possession—sent here by the other nations to purchase their war supplies in the period of our fabulously profitable neutrality—it is the shallowest kind of boasting for us to claim any credit for that fact, or to offer it as evidence of our superior capacity. To try by implication to list that condition among the accomplishments of Congress is a deception to which President Harding should not have stooped.

The letter, of course, is a partisan appeal. It is a campaign document. Its purpose is to win votes for Republican candidates for the Senate and the House.

FORMER CONGRESSMAN J. J. RUSSELL DEAD

Elected Prosecuting Attorney in 1880 and Served in 60th, 62nd, 63rd, 64th and 65th Congresses.

Charleston, Mo., Oct. 19.—Former Congressman Joseph J. Russell, 68 years old, died at 1:30 o'clock this morning in his rooms at the Russell Hotel. His death was unexpected, and was caused by heart disease, it is stated. He suffered a stroke of paralysis in 1918, while serving the Fourteenth Missouri District in Washington.

Mr. Russell was born August 23, 1854, in Mississippi county, which always has been his home. He was educated in the public schools and at the Charleston Academy. He graduated from the law school of the Missouri State University in 1880 and began practicing in Charleston. He was elected Prosecuting Attorney in 1880 and served in that capacity for four years.

He was Democratic Elector in 1884, a member of the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth General Assembly of Missouri, and was Speaker in the latter term. He was placed in nomination for the speakership by the late Champ Clark, then a member from Pike county. He served from the Fourteenth District in Congress for 10 years, and was elected to the Sixtieth, Sixty-second, Sixty-third, Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Congresses. He was chairman of the Democratic State Convention in 1910 and 1914.

A PLEASANT SURPRISE.

F. M. Perkins had a pleasant surprise this week when his uncle, Moses Petty of Pomona, California, and his brother, Charlie Perkins of Lawrenceville, Illinois, dropped in on him Tuesday evening unannounced. Mr. Petty, a brother of Mr. Perkins' mother, is 84 years old, and apparently in as good health and as spry as most men are at 50. He has lived in California about thirty years, and was traveling alone. He came east several days ago to attend a meeting of the G. A. R. held at Des Moines, Iowa, and from there took occasion to visit his old home in Illinois, which he had not seen in many years. And after visiting there he decided to come on to Hayti and visit his nephew, F. M. Perkins, who had lately spent a year or so in the same California town where the elderly gentleman resides. Mr. Petty left Thursday by way of Des Moines for his California home, being accompanied as far as St. Louis by his nephew, Charlie Perkins. It is very remarkable that one of the age of Mr. Petty would be able to make the long trips he takes unaccompanied, but the old gentleman appears to have no concern on that score, except that he seemed to be in some haste to get back to California, to the climate of which he attributes his well-preserved faculties. Mr. Petty is all over a Democrat, though he packed a gun for four long years to help free the negroes, who give all the appreciation to the Republican party. He says Johnson will be re-elected Senator from California—not, however, by his vote.

—For Rent.—240 acres, in 40 acre tracts or larger. Six good houses and barns. Some new ground and some clearing. Good cotton, corn ground, three miles west of Hayti, on Kennett road. J. S. Porter 4448 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Those from here who attended the 50th anniversary of the Masonic Lodge of Caruthersville, Monday evening were: Harry Byars, Joe and Ellis Kohn, "Buck" Brasher, Earl Raybuck, W. T. Nethery, Jack Teaster, Dr. Linaugh, Dr. Cresswell, Capt. B. F. Allen and Arthur Allen. There were also others whose names we did not learn. Those who attended report a fine time. An excellent supper was served and several interesting speeches were made.

—Genuine oak lawn swings, well bolted and re-inforced; the kind that will stand hard use. We put them up for you. Lefler Hardware Co.,

Pemiscot County Sunday School Association Meets at Hayti

The Pemiscot County Sunday School Association had its first annual Efficiency conference at the Baptist church in this city Sunday, October 15. The officers of the Hayti district served a cafeteria lunch to forty visitors at the Christian church at 12:30.

Miss Bess Litzenfeller, county Young Peoples Superintendent of Cape Girardeau county, and Mr. Carl Asmus, field secretary of Missouri Sunday School Association, were the out-of-county visitors. Mr. Asmus, in his address, brought very forcibly before the people some of the things necessary to be done in a county-wide way toward religious education. Miss Litzenfeller gave inspiration and encouragement to the officers in her talk on standards and how Cape county came to the front, from 74th to 2nd in the State of Missouri on the county standard in one year.

All of the county officers were present except one and held divisional conference with the district officers.

This conference shows that Pemiscot county Sunday schools are alive and pushing the work for better Sunday schools. Twenty-five of the thirty-five districts were present.

County officers:
President, Rev. McCullough, Caruthersville.
Vice-president, Mrs. H. D. Wells, Hayti.

Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. George Crockett, Caruthersville.
Young Peoples Superintendent, Mrs. J. W. Carmean, Caruthersville.
Children's Superintendent, Mrs. W. P. Robertson, Caruthersville.
Adult Superintendent, Mrs. Leona Condit, Hayti.
Administrative Superintendent, Mr. O. E. Hooker, Hayti.

The following is the district officers of the five districts in the county:

South Pemiscot District:
President, Mr. W. E. Kennedy, Holland.

Vice-president, Mrs. Minnie Tubberville, Holland.
Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. John Northern, Holland.

Assistant Sec.-Treas., Miss Jessie Cassidy, Steele.

Young Peoples Superintendent, Miss Neva Luckie, Steele.

Assistant Young Peoples Superintendent, Miss Vera Coleman, Holland.

Children's Superintendent, Miss

Maggie Harbor, Holland.
Adult Superintendent, Mr. S. L. Wagster, Cooter.

Administrative Superintendent, Mrs. Fred Copeland, Cooter.

Braggadocio District:
President, Mr. Bert Skinner, Braggadocio.

Vice-president, Miss Mary Jackson, Deering.

Secretary-treasurer, Mr. J. C. Galther, Braggadocio.

Young Peoples Superintendent, Mrs. Earl Coppage, Braggadocio.

Children's Superintendent, Mrs. Tom McCloskey, Braggadocio.

Adult Superintendent, Mr. Everton Speers, Braggadocio.

Administrative Superintendent, Mr. J. A. Morgan, Braggadocio.

Little Prairie District:
President, Mrs. Charles Cunningham, Caruthersville.

Vice-president, Mr. Bailey Brooks Caruthersville.

Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Harry Baker, Caruthersville.

Young Peoples Superintendent, Mrs. Paul Horner, Caruthersville.

Children's Superintendent, Mrs. Ralph Hutchison, Caruthersville.

Assistant Children's Superintendent, Mrs. Curtner Pierce, Caruthersville.

Adult Superintendent, Mrs. G. H. Warden, Caruthersville.

Administrative Superintendent, Mr. C. G. Ross, Caruthersville.

Hayti District:
President, Miss Irene Raybuck, Hayti.

Vice-president, Mr. C. E. Lauce, Swifton.

Secretary-treasurer, Mr. Sam E. Nethery, Hayti.

Young Peoples Superintendent, Mrs. J. L. Dorris, Sr., Hayti.

Children's Superintendent, Mrs. T. H. Ansell, Hayti.

Adult Superintendent, Mr. P. S. Ravenstein, Hayti.

Administrative Superintendent, Mr. L. H. Gale, Hayti.

North District:
President, F. M. Dillard, Wardell.

Vice-president, Mr. L. E. Butrey, Bragg City.

Secretary-treasurer, Prof. Pickler, Wardell.

Young Peoples Division Superintendent, Miss Leugenia Young, Wardell.

Children's Superintendent, Miss Ruth Young, Wardell.

Adult Superintendent, Mr. J. M. Wallace, Wardell.

Administrative Superintendent, Mr. W. E. Brown, Wardell.

TWO POSTMASTERS INDICTED

Both Charged by Federal Grand Jury With Embezzlement.

Cape Girardeau, Mo., Oct. 14.—The Federal grand jury yesterday indicted Walter Gully, Wardell, Mo., postmaster, charging him with embezzling \$1290 of postoffice funds; James R. Pollock, postmaster at Campbell, Mo., charging him with embezzling a \$914 check from the mails, and L. M. Morrow, a carnival follower, who was charged with selling and transporting opium through the mails.

Federal Court was adjourned at noon by Judge Farls after he had sentenced two more men to jail for violation of the prohibition law. John C. Baker, Poplar Bluff, was given four months in jail for selling liquor. L. B. Branham, Poplar Bluff, was sentenced to serve four months for possessing liquor.

Dr. R. C. Cresswell went up to Cape Girardeau Wednesday, where he attended a meeting of the Southeast Missouri Dental Association.

—Screen wire, poultry netting, Lefler Hardware Co., Hayti.

Charles Shields of Caruthersville was here Tuesday afternoon attending to business matters.

HIGHWAY COMMISSION WILL MEET ON OCTOBER 19

Jefferson City, Mo., Oct. 16.—Meeting of the State Highway Commission scheduled for October 16 and postponed until October 17, because of illness of Vice Chairman S. S. Connett and absence from the State of Murray Carleton of St. Louis, has again been postponed until October 19.

This was done because of the fact that all of the members of the commission could not be present tomorrow. There is nothing of importance outside of routine road matters to come before the meeting of the Commission this month, as Consulting Engineer R. L. Windrow and State Highway Engineer B. H. Piepmeyer are not yet ready to report their recommendations on the Federal primary system of highways.

This system will compose some 1800 miles of road but little inferior, if any, in types of construction to the 1500 miles of designated State primary roads.

—Mamma's pancake and buckwheat flour, at Buckleys'. Syrup, too.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Teaster and Mrs. R. N. Brasher and little son motored over to Caruthersville last Wednesday afternoon.